Proposal for new projects under DPAP of Maharashtra

2486. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain proposals submitted by the Government of Maharashtra or sanction of new projects under Centrally sponsored scheme-DPAP, are still pending consideration of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and since when these proposals are pending;

(c) the reasons for which a decision has not so far been taken in the matter; and

(d)~the present status thereof and when these proposals are likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Rural Development *suo moto* sanctions new watershed projects (of 500 hectares each) to the 16 programme States under DPAP keeping in view the budget outlay, identified coverage of DPAP in the State, committed liability for implementation of on-going projects, performance of on-going projects etc. During June, 2004 a request was received from the Government of Maharashtra for sanction of 1000 additional projects. The Ministry, keeping the above sanctioning criteria in view, sanctioned 303 new projects to the State during 2004-05 and 360 new projects have been approved for sanction to the State during 2005-06.

Potential of industrial development in rural areas

† 2487. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is potential of industrial development in addition to agriculture in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that 29 per cent industrial units of organized industrial sector are functioning in rural areas of the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.